

OFF

OFFICIAL. *adj.* [official, Fr. from *officium*.]

1. Conductive; appropriate with regard to their use.

In this animal are the guts, the stomach, and other parts official unto nutrition, which, were its aliment the empty reception of air, their provisions had been superfluous. *Brown.*

2. Pertaining to a public charge.

The tribunes
Endue you with the people's voice, Remains
That in th' official marks invested, you
Anon do meet the senate. *Shakef. Coriolanus.*

OFFICIAL. *n. f.*
Official is that person to whom the cognizance of causes is committed by such as have ecclesiastical jurisdiction. *Ayl.*
A poor man found a priest over familiar with his wife, and because he spake it abroad and could not prove it, the priest sued him before the bishop's official for defamation. *Comden.*
OFFICIALTY. *n. f.* [official, Fr. from *official*.] The charge or post of an official.

The office of an official to an archdeacon. *Ayliffe.*
To OFFICIATE. *v. a.* [from *officium*.] To give, in consequence of office.

All her number'd stars that seem to rowl
Spaces incomprehensible, for such
Their distance argues, and their swift return
Diurnal, merely to officiate light
Round this opacous earth, this punctual spot. *Milton.*

To OFFICIATE. *v. n.*

1. To discharge an office, commonly in worship.
No minister officiating in the church, can with a good conscience omit any part of that which is commanded by the afore said law. *Sanderfon.*

Who of the bishops or priests that officiates at the altar, in the places of their sepulchres, ever said we offer to thee Peter or Paul?

To prove curates no servants, is to rescue them from that contempt which they will certainly fall into under this notion; which considering the number of persons officiating this way, must be very prejudicial to religion. *Collier.*

2. To perform an office for another.

OFFICIAL. *adj.* [from *officina*, a shop.] Used in a shop, or belonging to it: thus official plants and drugs are those used in the shops.

OFFICIOUS. *adj.* [officius, Fr. *officius*, Lat.]

1. Kind; doing good offices.

Yet, not to earth are those bright luminaries
Officious; but to thee, earth's habitant. *Milt. P. Lost.*

2. Importunately forward.

You are too officious
In her behalf that coars your services. *Shakef.*
At Taunton they killed in fury an officious and eager commissioner for the subsidy. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

Cato, perhaps
I'm too officious, but my forward cares
Would fain preserve a life of so much value. *Addison.*

OFFICIOUSLY. *adv.* [from *officius*.]

1. Importunately forward.

The most corrupt are most obsequious grown,
And those they scorn'd, officiously they own. *Dryden.*

Flatt'ring crouds officiously appear,

To give themselves, not you, an happy year. *Dryd.*

2. Kindly; with unasked kindness.

Let thy goats officiously be nurs'd,

And led to living streams to quench their thirst. *Dryd.*

OFFICIOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *officius*.]

1. Forwardness of civility, or respect, or endeavour. Commonly in an ill sense.

I shew my officiousness by an offering, though I betray my poverty by the measure. *South's Serm.*

2. Service.

In whom is required understanding as in a man, courage and vivacity as in a lion, service and ministerial officiousness as in the ox, and expedition as in the eagle. *Brown's V. Err.*

OFFING. *n. f.* [from *off*.] The act of steering to a distance from the land.

OFFSET. *n. f.* [off and set.] Sprout; shoot of a plant.

They are multiplied not only by the seed, but many also by the root, producing offsets or creeping under ground. *Ray.*

Some plants are raised from any part of the root, others by offsets, and in others the branches set in the ground will take root. *Locke.*

OFFSCOURING. *n. f.* [off and scour.] Recrement; part rubbed away in cleaning any thing.

Thou hast made us as the offscouring and refuse in the midst of the people. *Lam. iii. 45.*

OFFSPRING. *n. f.* [off and spring.]

1. Propagation; generation.

All things coveting to be like unto God in being ever, that which cannot hereunto attain personally, doth seem to continue itself by offspring and propagation. *Hooker.*

2. The thing propagated or generated; children; descendants.

OGL

When the fountain of mankind

Did draw corruption, and God's curse, by sin;

This was a charge, that all his heirs did bind,

And all his offspring grew corrupt therein. *Devlin.*

To the Gods alone

Our future offspring, and our wives are known. *Dryd.*

His principal actor is the son of a goddess, not to mention the offspring of other deities. *Addison's Spectator.*

3. Production of any kind.

Tho' both fell before their hour,

Time on their offspring hath no pow'r;

Nor fire nor fate their bays shall blatt,

Nor death's dark veil their days o'ercast. *Danham.*

To OFFUSCATE. *v. a.* [offuse, Lat. *offuscare*, Fr.] To dim; to cloud; to darken.

OFFUSCATION. *n. f.* [from *offuscare*.] The act of darkening.

OFF. *adv.* [off, Saxon.] Often; frequently; not rarely; not seldom.

In labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. *2 Cor. ii. 23.*

It may be a true faith, for so much as it is; it is one part of true faith, which is oft mistaken for the whole. *Hamm.*

Favours to none, to all the smiles extends.

Off the rejects, but never once offends. *Po. Ra. Locke.*

OFFEN. *adv.* [from *off*, Saxon; in the comparative, often; superlative, oftent.] Oft; frequently; many times; not seldom.

The queen that bore thee,

Often upon her knees than on her feet,

Died ev'ry day the liv'd. *Shakef. Macbeth.*

Use a little wine for thy stomach's sake, and thine often infirmities. *1 Tim. v. 23.*

In journeying often, in perils in the wilderness. *2 Cor. ii. 20.*

Who does not more admire Cicero as an author, than as a consul of Rome, and does not often talk of the celebrated writers of our own country in former ages, than of any among their contemporaries? *Addison's Freeholder.*

OFFENTIMES. *adv.* [often and times.] From the composition of this word it is reasonable to believe, that oft was once an adjective, of which often was the plural; which seems retained in the phrase *thine often infirmities*. See OFFEN.]

Frequently; many times; often.

Is our faith in the blessed trinity a matter needles, to be oftentimes mentioned and opened in the principal part of that duty which we owe to God, our public prayer? *Hooker.*

The difficulty was by what means they could ever arrive to places oftentimes so remote from the ocean. *Wooden.*

It is equally necessary that there should be a future state, to vindicate the justice of God, and solve the present irregularities of providence, whether the best men be oftentimes only, or always the most miserable. *Atterbury.*

OFFTIMES. *adv.* [oft and times.] Frequently; often.

Oftentimes nothing profits more

Than self-esteem, grounded on just and right,

Well manag'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. viii.*

Oftentimes before I hither did resort,

Charm'd with the conversation of a man

Who led a rural life. *Dryden and Lee.*

OGEE. *n. f.* Is a sort of moulding in architecture, consisting of a round and a hollow: it is almost in the form of an S, and is the same with what Vitruvius calls cimæ. Cima reversa, is an ogee with the hollow downwards. *Harris.*

Ogle. *v. a.* [ogel, an eye, Dutch.] To view with side glances, as in fondness; or with a design not to be heeded.

From their high scaffold with a trumpet cheer,
If the female tongue will be in motion, why should it not be set to go right? Could they talk of the different aspects and conjunctions of the planets, they need not be at the pains to comment upon ogles and clandestine marriages. *Addison's Guardian, N^o. 155.*

Whom is he ogling yonder? himself in his looking-glass. *Martinius Scribentis.*

OGLER. *n. f.* [oggheler, Dutch.] A fly gazer; one who views by side glances.

Upon the disuse of the neck-piece, the whole tribe of oglers stared the fair sex in the neck rather than in the face. *Addison's Guardian, N^o. 100.*

Jack was a prodigious ogler; he would ogle you the outside of his eye inward, and the white upward. *J. Bull.*

OGLIO. *n. f.* [from *olio*, Spanish.] A dish made by mingling different kinds of meat; a medley; a hotchpotch.

These general motives of the common good, I will not so much as once offer up to your lordship, though they have still the upper end; yet, like great oglios, they rather make a shew than provoke appetite. *Sackling.*

Where is there such an oglio or medley of various opinions in the world again, as those men entertain in their service, without any scruple as to the diversity of their sects and opinions? *King Charles.*

OIL

He that keeps an open house, should consider that there are oglios & guests, as well as of dishes, and that the liberty of a common table is as good as a tacit invitation to all sorts of intruders. *L'Estrange.*

OH. *interj.* An exclamation denoting pain, sorrow, or surprise.

He,

Like stall acorn'd boar, a churning on,

Cry'd oh! and mounted. *Shakef. Cymbeline.*

Oh m! all the horse have got over the river, what shall we do?

My eyes confess it,

My very action speaks my heart aloud;

But, the madnes of my high attempt

Speaks louder yet! *Dryden's Spanish Friar.*

OIL. *n. f.* [oil, Saxon; oleum, Latin.]

1. The juice of olives expressed.

Big pure oil olive beaten for the light. *Ex. xxvii. 20.*

2. Any fat, greasy, unctuous, thin matter.

Most birds there is only one gland; in which are diversells, ending in two or three larger cells, lying under the tipple of the oil bag. *Derham's Physico-Theol.*

3. The juices of certain vegetables, expressed or drawn by the still without fermentation, or after the spirit.

It with chemists called sulphur, is the second of their hypostatical, and of the true five chemical principles. It is an inflammable, unctuous, subtle substance, which usually rises as the spirit. The chemists attribute to this principle all the diversity of colours, and all the beauty and deformity.

It sweetens the acrimony of salts, and by stopping or filling the pores of a mixt body, keeps it longer from corruption, where it abounds. There are two sorts of oil which are to be mixt with spirit; for it can never be drawn pure, and which will swim upon water, such as oil of aniseed and yender, which the chemists call essential, and is commonly drawn in a limbeck with store of water: and another kind which probably is mixt with salts; and these will sink in water, such as the oil of guaiacum and cloves. *Harris.*

After this expressed oil, we made trial of a distilled one; and for that purpose made choice of the common oil or spirit. *Boyle.*

4. OIL. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To smear or lubricate with oil.

The men fell a rubbing of armour, which a great while had lain oiled. *Watson.*

Amber will attract straws thus oiled, it will convert the needles of dials, made either of brass or iron, although they be much oiled, for in those needles confining fire upon their center there can be no adhesion. *Brown's V. Err.*

Swift oil many a spring which Harley moves. *Swift.*

OILCOLOUR. *n. f.* [oil and colour.] Colour made by grinding coloured substances in oil.

Oilecolours, after they are brought to their due temper, may be preserved long in some degree of softness, kept all the while under water. *Boyle.*

OILINESS. *n. f.* [from *oil*.] Unctuousness; greasiness; quality approaching to that of oil.

Basil hath fat and succulent leaves; which oiliness, if drawn forth by the sun, will make a very great change. *Bacon.*

Wine is inflammable, so as it hath a kind of oiliness. *Bac.*

Smoke from unctuous bodies and such whose oiliness is evident, he nameth nidor. *Brown's Vulgar Err.*

Chyle has the same principles as milk, viscosity from the caseous parts, an oiliness from the butyraceous parts, and an acidity from the tartareous. *Flyer.*

The flesh of animals which live upon other animals, is most antacid; though offensive to the stomach sometimes by reason of their oiliness. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

OILMAN. *n. f.* [oil and man.] One who trades in oils and pickles.

OILSHOP. *n. f.* [oil and shop.] A shop where oils and pickles are sold.

OILY. *adj.* [from *oil*.]

1. Consisting of oil; containing oil; having the qualities of oil.

The like cloud, if it were oily or fatty, will not discharge; not because it sticketh faster, but because air preyeth upon water and flame, and fire upon oil. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*

Flame is grosser than gross fire, by reason of the mixture with it of that viscous oily matter, which, being drawn out of the wood and candle, serves for fuel. *Digby.*

Watry substances are more apt to putrify than oily. *Bacon.*

2. Fat; greasy.

This oily rascal is known as well as Paul's;

Go call him forth. *Shakef. Henry IV.*

OLYGRAIN. *n. f.* A plant.

The flowers are produced from the wings of the leaves without any footstalk; the flower cup consists of one leaf, divided into five long slender segments; the flower is of one leaf, in shape like those of the fox-glove; the pointal, which rises in the middle of the flower, afterward becomes an oblong four cornered pod, divided into four distinct cells, which are replete with excellent seeds. *Miller.*

OLD

OILPALM. *n. f.*

It grows in great plenty on the coast of Guiney, as also in Cape Verd island, where it grows as high as the main mast of a ship. But these trees have been transplanted to Jamaica and Barbados, in both which places they thrive very well. The inhabitants make an oil from the pulp of the fruit, and draw a wine from the body of the trees, which inebriates; and with the rind of these trees they make mats to lie on. *Miller.*

To OINT. *v. a.* [oint, French.] To anoint; to smear with something unctuous.

They oint their naked limbs with mother'd oil,

Or from the founts where living sulphurs boil,

They mix a medicine to foment their limbs. *Dryden.*

Limarus was not wanting to the war,

Directing ointed arrows from afar;

And death with poison arm'd. *Dryden's Æneis.*

OINTMENT. *n. f.* [from *oint*.] Unguent; unctuous matter to smear any thing.

Life and long health that gracious ointment gave,

And deadly wounds could heal, and rear again

The senseless corpse appointed for the grave. *Fairy Q.*

OKER. *n. f.* [See OCHRE.] A colour.

And Klaius taking for his younglings cark,

Left greedy eyes to them might challenge lay,

Busy with oker did their shoulders mark. *Sidney.*

Red oker is one of the most heavy colours; yellow oker is not so, because it is clearer. *Dryden's Disfranchisement.*

OLD. *adj.* [ealbo, Saxon; alt, German.]

1. Past the middle part of life; not young.

To old age since you your self aspire,

Let not old age disgrace my high desire. *Sidney.*

He woos high and low, rich and poor, young and old. *Shakef. Merry Wives of Windsor.*

2. Of long continuance; begun long ago.

When Gardiner was sent over as ambassador into France, with great pomp, he said unto an old acquaintance of his that came to take his leave of him, Now I am in my gloria patri.

Yea, said his friend, and I hope, et nunc et semper. Or, replied the bishop, if it please the king my master, sicut erat in principio, a poor scholar of Cambridge again. *Camden's Remains.*

3. Not new.

The vine beareth more grapes when it is young; but grapes that make better wine when it is old; for that the juice is better concocted. *Bacon's Nat. History.*

4. Ancient; not modern.

The Genoese are cunning, industrious, and inured to hardship; which was likewise the character of the old Ligurians. *Addison on Italy.*

5. Of any specified duration.

How old art thou? Not so young, Sir, to love a woman for fingering; nor so old to doat on her for any thing. I have years on my back forty-eight. *Shakef. King Lear.*

Plead you to me, fair dame, I know you not.

In Ephesus I am but two hours old,

As strange unto your town as to your talk. *Shakef.*

Any man that shall live to see thirty persons descended of his body alive together, and all above three years old, makes this feast, which is done at the cost of the state. *Bacon.*

6. Subsisting before something else.

The Latian king, unless he shall submit,

Own his old promise, and his new forget,

Let him in arms the pow'r of Turnus prove. *Dryd.*

He must live in danger of his house falling about his ears, and will find it cheaper to build it again from the ground in a new form; which may not be so convenient as the old. *Swift's Proj. for the Advan. of Relig.*

7. Long practised.

Then said I unto her that was old in adulteries, will they now commit whoredoms with her? *Ezek. xxiii. 43.*

8. A word to signify in burlesque language, more than enough.

Here will be old Utis; it will be an excellent stratagem. *Shakespeare's Henry IV. p. ii.*

Here's a knocking indeed; if a man were potter of hell gate, he should have old turning the key. *Shakef.*

9. Of old; long ago; from ancient times.

These things they cancel, as having been instituted in regard of occasions peculiar to the times of old, and as being now superfluous. *Hooker, b. v. f. 35.*

Whether such virtue spent of old now fail'd

More angels to create. *Milt. P. Lost, b. ix.*

A land there is, Hesperia nam'd of old,

The soil is fruitful, and the men are bold;

Now call'd Italia, from the leader's name. *Dryden.*

In days of old there liv'd of mighty fame,

A valiant prince, and Theseus was his name. *Dryd.*

OLD-FASHIONED. *adj.* [old and fashion.] Formed according to obsolete custom.

Some are offended that I turned these tales into modern English;